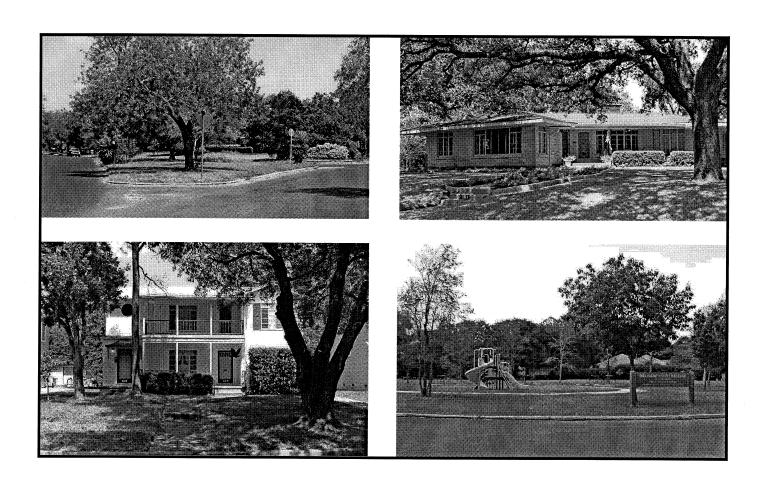
# Terrell Heights Neighborhood

# **GOALS AND STRATEGIES REPORT**



October 1999

Based on the Ideas from the Goals and Strategies Community Workshop September 11, 1998

Prepared by City of San Antonio Planning Department

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#### Dear Neighbors:

The City of San Antonio Planning Department met with a group of community members from the Terrell Heights Neighborhood area to brainstorm and identify the goals and strategies for the neighborhood. The September 11, 1999 workshop resulted in goals that the neighborhood prioritized as well as strategies to accomplish those goals. From this, a Goals and Strategies Report was developed.

At the workshop, the Terrell Heights neighborhood identified the top three goals they want to achieve as: (1) create and implement a speed control/traffic/pedestrian plan; (2) be proactive in infrastructure planning and maintenance; and (3) maintain the character of the neighborhood.

This report is a snapshot of the values of the community. The purpose of this snapshot is to focus the community energies on commonly agreed upon goals and strategies. There is no funding in this planning effort. The real value of this report is that it functions as a catalyst that will bring community residents and stakeholders together to focus their energies.

The City cannot improve neighborhoods alone. Today, neighborhoods must partner with all stakeholders such as schools, businesses, non-profit organizations, churches, and other community institutions to make a positive impact in our neighborhoods.

The Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association Goals and Strategies Report will be distributed to appropriate City departments as well as to Councilman David Carpenter, District 10, and to Mayor Howard Peak. As Planning Director for the City of San Antonio, I applaud your efforts and thank you for making our neighborhoods a better and safer place to live.

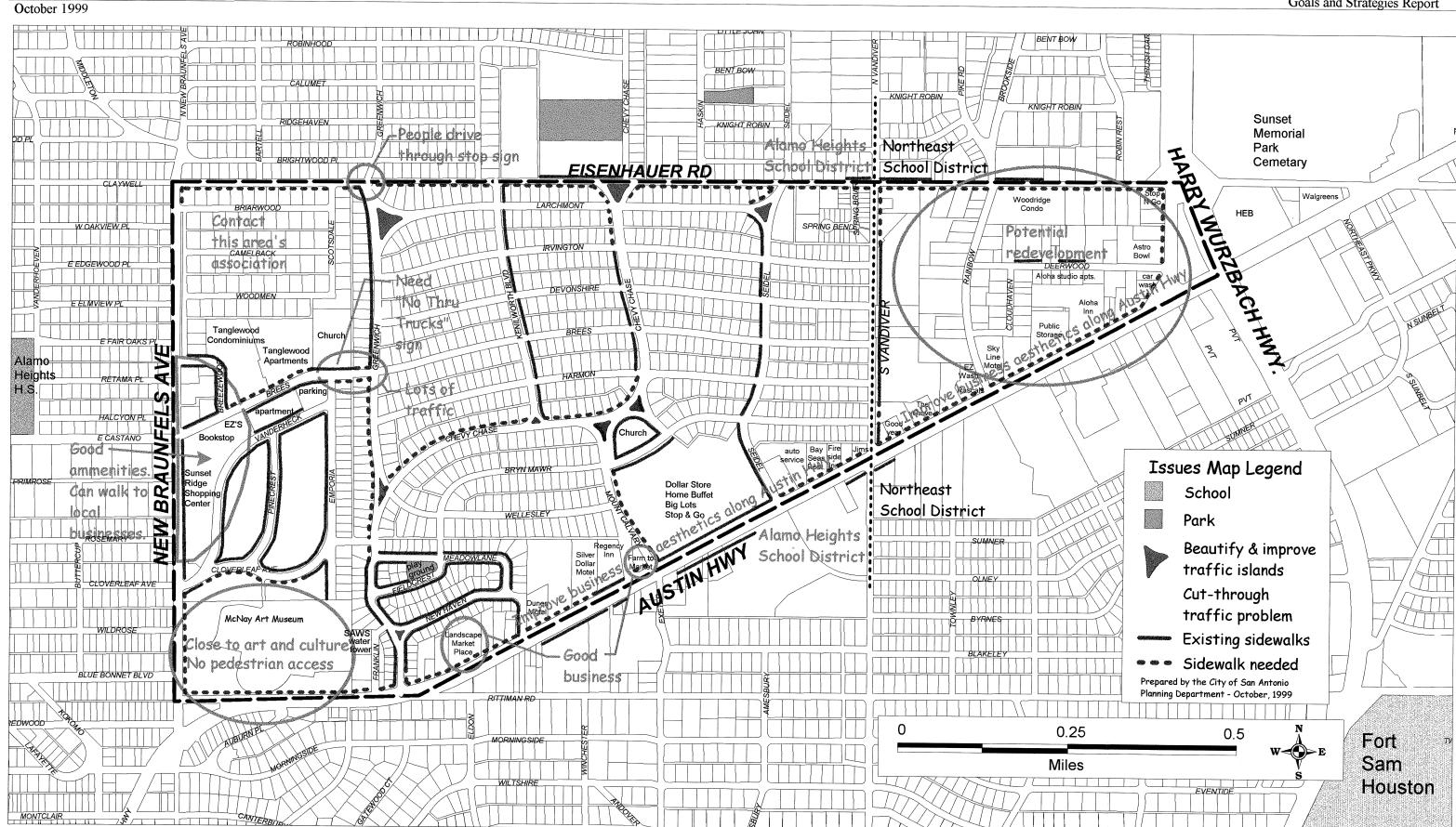
Sincerely,

Emil R. Moncivais, Director

City of San Antonio Planning Department

#### **Summary of Goals and Strategies** (see pages 6 – 8 for entire text)

- 1. Create and implement a **speed control/traffic/pedestrian plan** by requesting city traffic counts on specific streets and requesting signage from the Public Works Traffic Division.
- 2. Be proactive in **infrastructure planning and maintenance** by contacting Public Works and the District 10 councilperson about the Street Slurry Seal Project and by contacting S.A.W.S. and C.P.S. about their long-range plans for area infrastructure.
- 3. Maintain the **character of the neighborhood** by planting trees, organizing cleanups, and designating representatives to work with agencies and departments.
- 4. Better **utilize open spaces** by creating and implementing a plan to improve the traffic islands and park.
- 5. Increase **participation in the neighborhood association** and other neighborhood activities by forming a welcoming committee, enlisting the help of block captains, and recruiting business and apartment members.
- 6. Improve **internal/external communication** between residents, businesses, schools, government, and surrounding neighborhoods by encouraging use of the neighborhood web page and by participating in the neighborhood planning process with nearby neighborhoods.



#### **Neighborhood Strengths**

This section outlines the strengths of the neighborhood identified by the community at a public workshop held September 11, 1999.

#### **Good Location**

- Close to downtown
- Easy access to major highways
- Close to schools
- Access to public transportation

#### Character of Neighborhood

- Safe
- **■** Family atmosphere
- Large trees
- Neighborhood has an "old-fashioned" feeling
- Neighborhood is not declining
- Wide streets

#### Housing

- Variety of differently designed homes
- Houses are set back from the street
- Stability of property values
- Alley garbage pick-up

#### **Good Local Amenities**

- Variety of businesses within walking distance
- Proximity of McNay Art Museum
- People use the neighborhood and local services
- Good quality of education at local schools
- Many "mom and pop" businesses not all national chains

#### Residents

- Diversity of age, ethnicity, and economic status
- Concerned neighbors
- Welcoming, friendly people

#### **Neighborhood Weaknesses and Concerns**

This section outlines the weaknesses and concerns of the neighborhood identified by the community at a public workshop held September 11, 1999.

#### Traffic and speeding

- "Cut through" traffic on North/South streets (Greenwich, Kenilworth, Chevy Chase and Mt. Calvary) from drivers trying to avoid light at N. New Braunfels
- The City of Terrell Hills residents cut through Terrell Heights taking their children to school

#### Lack of sidewalks

- No pedestrian entrance to McNay Art Museum
- Missing link sidewalk on Brees from Greenwich to Emporia
- Sidewalks needed at the following locations:
  - along north side of Brees from Greenwich to businesses on N. New Braunels
  - on Chevy Chase from where it ends near Mt. Calvary to Austin Highway
  - along Greenwich from Brees to Chevy Chase
  - connect end of sidewalk on Mt. Calvary to Austin Highway

#### Area is over 50 years old

- Houses are aging
- Houses may contain lead based paint and asbestos siding
- Sewer, water lines, and other infrastructures are aging

#### Character of the neighborhood is changing

- Rising value of housing
  - > The Bexar Appraisal District does not have correct information on some homes
  - > Some people nearing retirement have tax increases and difficulty maintaining homes
- Incompatible architectural styles being built

#### Code compliance enforcement

- Mowing and trimming alley ways
- Businesses operated out of residences

No library (although the Oakwell Branch Library on Harry Wurzbach is not far)

#### **Other Concerns**

Insufficient street lights at walk-way level
On-street parking (multiple cars at one residence)
Poorly maintained residences
Graffiti on some signs
Some irresponsible pet owners
Need more people interested in neighborhood and neighborhood association

#### **Goals and Strategies**

This section describes the goals of the neighborhood and strategies to meet those goals as identified by the community at a public workshop held September 11, 1999.

#### Top three goals in order of priority:

1. Create and implement a speed control/traffic/pedestrian plan.

Initial strategies to accomplish this goal:

- The Neighborhood Association safety committee will lead in creating this plan.
- Request city traffic count on specific streets.
- Request signage from Public Works Traffic Division (stop signs, No Through Trucks, Children at Play).
- Investigate participating in "Keep Kids Alive Drive 25" program.
- Follow-up on sidewalk connection along Brees from Greenwich to Emporia.
- Call the school district and request empty school busses not cut through the neighborhood.
- Request the McNay Art Museum open the back gates on weekends for families walking to the museum.
- 2. Be proactive in infrastructure planning and maintenance by improving drainage and maintaining streets.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- Contact Public Works and District 10 councilperson to re-do the Slurry Seal Project completed on the neighborhood streets by the City of San Antonio.
- Investigate plans that S.A.W.S. may have to replace sewers.
- Find out what S.A.W.S., C.P.S., Southwestern Bell and the cable company's long-range plans are for infrastructure in the neighborhood to be assured the neighborhood will have input.
- 3. Maintain the character of the neighborhood.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- Encourage participation in the neighborhood Heritage Tree Program.
- Designate representatives to liaison with agencies, school board, city departments, and Zoning Commission to increase the neighborhood's knowledge and involvement in community affairs.
- Participate in the Code Compliance Department's "blue card" program.
- Educate and inform residents on Code Compliance issues in the newsletter.
- Organize an alley clean up.
- When a conservation district ordinance is passed by City Council, investigate becoming a conservation district to determine if this is desired.

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- Contact the Government Hill Neighborhood Association to inquire about how they set up their maintenance assistance program for the elderly and handicapped.
- Identify landlords and encourage them to become involved with the neighborhood. Ask them if they sell their rental home to sell it to someone in the neighborhood or to someone who will live in it.
- Work for green buffers between the businesses on Austin Highway and residences.

#### **Other Goals:**

4. Better utilize open spaces.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- Form a parks and traffic island beautification committee to discuss and write a plan for improving, beautifying, and maintaining the traffic islands and the park.
- Work with City Parks and Recreation Department to improve and maintain the park.
- Work with nurseries to obtain donated flowers, bushes, and landscape material for the traffic islands.
- 5. Increase participation in the neighborhood association and other neighborhood activities.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- Create a welcome committee to greet new residents. Invite them to a neighborhood meeting and to join the Association. Inform them of neighborhood activities and acomplishments. Kirk will provide monthly MLS closings to the welcoming committee.
- Recruit block captains to keep their street informed.
- Obtain the business address database from the City Planning Department so the neighborhood association can keep business owners informed and encourage them to join the neighborhood association.
- Post neighborhood meeting notices and a newsletter at each apartment complex.
- Give summary page of this report to residents.
- Have a guest speaker on a topic of interest at the neighborhood association meetings.
- Maintain a list of contractors who have done good work in the neighborhood.
- Maintain a list of residents who are resources (bookkeepers, lawyers, music teachers, contractors, etc.)
- Contact the neighborhood association in the northwest corner of Terrell Heights and invite them to the Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association meetings
- Promote neighborhood accomplishments.

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6. Improve internal/external communication between residents, businesses, schools, government, and surrounding neighborhoods.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- Encourage people to use the neighborhood web page. (http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/sat/terrell)
- Send neighborhood newsletter to frequently used neighborhood businesses.
- Register the neighborhood association with the City Planning Department.
- Designate a liaison representative to communicate with surrounding neighborhoods (Oak Park/Northwood, Wilshire Terrace, Wilshire).
- Participate in the City Neighborhood Planning process with Oak Park/Northwood and Wilshire Terrace to create a neighborhood plan for the entire area.
- Designate a liaison representative to communicate with local schools.
- Use the neighborhood newsletter to communicate important issues.
- Create an email list of neighbors for notification and reminders.
- Encourage residents to participate in social events and get to know each other.

### **Appendices**

**Appendix A - September 11, 1999 Workshop Agenda and Sign-In Sheet** 

**Appendix B - October 2, 1999 Follow-up Meeting Agenda and Sign-In Sheet** 

#### City of San Antonio Planning Department

# Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association GOALS AND STRATEGIES SETTING WORKSHOP

Saturday, September 11, 1999 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon Northridge Baptist Church; 2659 Eisenhauer Rd.

#### **AGENDA**

9:00 – 9:30	Coffee and viewing of maps
9:30 - 9:45	Welcome and Introductions

9:45 - 10:00 Background Information:

- Planning Department
- Neighborhood Planning
- Neighborhood Area
- Demographics

#### 10:00 - 11:45 Work Session

10:00 - 10:05 Review Ground Rules

- Be courteous.
- Share your ideas.
- Be specific and concise No speeches!
- Listen to others.

Throughout the work session, ideas will be noted on the easel pad and the community map.

10:05 - 10:20	What do you like about your neighborhood?		
10:20 - 10:35	What don't you like about your neighborhood?		
10:35 - 11:05	What do you want your neighborhood to be like in		
	the future? What are your goals?		
11:05 - 11:15	Prioritize goals. Where should you start? What is		
	most important?		
11:15 - 11:45	What strategies can you, as a neighborhood group,		
	work on to reach your goals? Who can you partner		
	with to help?		

#### 11:45 - 12:00 Next Steps

A strategy is a game plan, blueprint or schedule for working towards a goal. Being strategic means creating well-thought-out strategies, planning ahead, and working on key efforts.

# Will be on Planning Team for Neighborhood Plan Sign In Sheet

## Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association Goals and Strategies Setting Workshop

Saturday September 11, 1999 Northridge Baptist Church, 2659 Eisenhauer Road

Name	Address	Phone
Name  poku lipper	228 Empiria 78209	826-2714
Candy Berkley	234 Brees 18209	828-9108
Molhy Davis Ruggles	113 Wellesley	8229284
Emily Johnson	102 Wellesley	8223053
David Munich	2659 Ersenhauen	824-0539
Kirk Mancill	161 Brees	930-0350
Done In Dumble	154 Brees Blod	822-9875
Ruth Denks	218 Drvington 264 Larchmons	824-8362
Suanne Swif	264 Larchnions	824.8364
PARKER Scott	264 landmon	826-8344
ERNESTO DIAZ	151 DEVONSHIRE DE.	BZ1-6314
John Bradley	210 IRVINGTON	828-150 2
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# \*Will be on Planning Team for Neighboriner Plan Sign In Sheet

## Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association Goals and Strategies Setting Workshop

Saturday September 11, 1999 Northridge Baptist Church, 2659 Eisenhauer Road

	Name	Address	Phone
X	of.T. Whitehers	515 GDEENWICH	930-4300
	Ann Atwell	6900 N. Vardirer D-101	822-5017
	Mut I fruhecht	241 Wellesley	8229916
	PAT PATTERSON	113 BREES	826-3123
	Debra Black	311 Larchmont	930-3040
	Reta Kennedy	296 Brees	826-2763
	Patricia EcholES	227 Larchmont DR	824-3078
	Giner Cimmer	401 Brees Blud.	826-7286
	MN DOODS + MARK	\$03 DEVONSHIRE	828-5539
	Dorally & Warren	-lester 323-327 Devenshive	826.7127
	Rosana Brazil	Planning Department	
	Nettie Hinton	Neighborhard Pesource Com?	u
• •	Carol Haywood	Planning Dept	A-3

#### City of San Antonio Planning Department

# Terrell Heights Neighborhood Association GOALS AND STRATEGIES SETTING FOLLOW-UP MEETING

Saturday, October 2, 1999 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Northridge Baptist Church; 2659 Eisenhauer Rd.

#### **AGENDA**

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Introductions9:15 - 9:45 Review Goals and Strategies Report

#### Ground Rules

- Be courteous.
- Share your ideas.
- Be specific and concise No speeches!
- Listen to others.

Throughout the work session, ideas will be noted on the easel pad and the community map.

9:45 - 10:45 Comment on and make changes to document

10:45 - 11:00 Next Steps

A strategy is a game plan, blueprint or schedule for working towards a goal. Being strategic means creating well-thought-out strategies, planning ahead, and working on key efforts.

# Put & by name if interested in helping to plan for Sign In Sheet neighborhood plan

## Terrell Heights Neighborhood Goals and Strategies Setting Workshop

Saturday October 2, 1999 Northridge Baptist Church, 2659 Eisenhauer Road

Name	Address	Phone
Son Kaplan	7326 N. VANDIVER	828-807
Strakay Dicke	- 11	8244428
Ann Atwell	1 231 Chery Chase 6900N. Vandiser D-101	822-5017
Parket Suzava	ueScor 264 LARchmont	826-8364
Molly Ruggles	113 Wellesley	8229384
Michael L Jagorch	1	
JUHN PATTERSON		826-3123
Candy Berkle		828-9108
Jackie Pepper	228 Ompria	826-2714
Jane Flemble	·	822-9675
Dalu Heda	or 23. 22 Dermani.	826 1127,
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Put \* by name if interested in helping plan for Sign In Sheet Meighborhood plan

## Terrell Heights Neighborhood Goals and Strategies Setting Workshop

Saturday October 2, 1999 Northridge Baptist Church, 2659 Eisenhauer Road

Name	Address	Phone
	161 Brees	930-0350
John Bradle	24 ZIO IRVINGTON	828-1502
(*)	1cs 218 L	824-836)
Phyllis 1	enks a	824-8362
	rott 241 Welleslag	
Carol Haywood	Planning Department	
_ Rosana Brazil	Planning Pepartment	
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